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News

Macomb County Executive
Mark A. Hackel



Community Mental Health Services

For Immediate Release

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Community Mental Health Receives Grants to Fight Substance Abuse *More Family Services and Narcan Education to Save Lives*

Macomb County Community Mental Health (MCCMH) has received substance abuse prevention and treatment grants totaling \$1 million from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

“These programs will allow us to expand services which will provide new levels of support so we can help people recover from substance abuse disorders and ultimately save lives,” said Helen Klingert, assistant director of Substance Abuse at MCCMH.

The grants expand peer recovery services, provide community education on prescription drug and opioid prevention, and specialized services for pregnant women who use opioids in order to improve outcomes for families affected by Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS).

Macomb County experienced nearly 200 opioid related deaths in 2015. In 2016 almost 60 percent of MCCMH’s treatment admissions were due to opioids, and NAS rates rose over 1500 percent in Michigan between 2000 and 2013.

Expansion of Peer Recovery Services

Two programs will directly focus on using peer resources for recovery. A program that addresses opioid overdose recovery will target individuals at local emergency rooms who have opioid use and overdose issues. MCOSA partner CARE of Southeastern Michigan will provide trained Peer Recovery Coaches at emergency rooms of St. John Macomb Hospital in Warren and Henry Ford Macomb Hospital in Clinton Township to reduce recurrence rates of drug overdoses. Individuals who experience or have experienced substance abuse will receive recovery coaching and be connected to support services.

The Drug Court Peer Recovery Support Program will fund one peer recovery coach each at 39th District Court’s “Sobriety Court,” and 40th District Court’s Drug Court. The program seeks to increase the number of drug court program graduates, reduce re-entry into the court system, and provide support and coaching to drug court participants to encourage recovery.

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Overdose Prevention

The Prescription Drug and Opioid Prevention Program will allow MCCMH to develop a community awareness campaign, education, and equip opioid users and their families with skills to identify and respond to an overdose with Narcan[®]. Narcan, in the form a nasal spray, is used for the emergency treatment of someone suspected to be experiencing an opioid overdose, which counteracts the life-threatening effects of opioid overdose. To date, 20 MCCMH clients have been saved by Narcan treatments.

Treatment Services for Pregnant Women

MCCSA will enhance current efforts to provide specialized services for substance abuse for families affected by NAS, which happens when a baby is exposed to drugs in the womb before birth. A baby can then go through drug withdrawal treatment after birth. Clients will receive help from outreach specialists who work with hospital staff at Henry Ford Macomb on coordinating prenatal appointments and referrals, substance abuse treatment, residential treatment services, educational services, Medication Assisted Treatment, and case management.

“Having the hospital on board and welcoming helps improve outcomes, because often there is much stigma and shame directed towards families challenged with NAS,” said Klingert.

Macomb County Community Mental Health is the public manager and provider of mental health, substance use and developmental disability treatment services in Macomb County. MCCMH programs and services are supported and funded, in part, by the Michigan Department of Community Health and the Macomb County Board of Commissioners and are administered by the Macomb County Community Mental Health Board. Visit <http://www.mccmh.net/> or [Facebook](#) for more information.

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